

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

09/908,970

Examiner

Cheukfan Lee

Applicant(s)

SEKIYA ET AL.

Art Unit

2622

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to an amendment filed April 7, 2005.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-19 and 22, now renumbered 1-20, respectively.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 19 July 2001 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

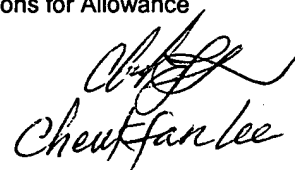
Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
 6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


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1. All pending claims 1-19 and 22 are allowed. Claim 22 is newly added. Claims 1, 5, 7, 18, 19, and 22 are independent.

2. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

Independent claims 1, 5, 7, 18, and 19 have been amended to include the limitation of adjustment of the light amount of the original detecting means by the adjustment means is carried out after a predetermined time period has passed after the original conveying apparatus or image forming apparatus has moved into a standby mode. The examiner found Applicant's arguments convincing that Rotter (U.S. Patent No. 6,134,496) and Nabeshima (U.S. Patent No. 6,330,083), alone or in combination, does not disclose or teach adjusting the light quantity of a document-detecting sensor after the image forming or the original conveying apparatus has moved into the standby mode, and there would not have been a motivation for Nabeshima to adjust the light quantity after the apparatus has moved into the standby mode since Nabeshima discloses adjusting light quantity of the fluorescent lamp for illuminating documents while the apparatus is in an operational mode. Please refer to Applicant's remarks on page 8, the last paragraph to page 9, the third paragraph.

Claims 2-4 depend on claim 1. Claim 6 depends on claim 5. Claims 8-17 depend on claim 7. These dependent claims are allowable for the reasons given for their independent claims 1, 5, and 7.

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New independent claim 22 is allowable over the prior art of record because the prior art, including Nabeshima (U.S. Patent No. 6,330,083), does not teach or suggest adjusting the light amount, which is emitted from the light-emitting section of the original detecting sensor of the original conveying apparatus, based on the correction value stored in a nonvolatile storage device when the new correction value obtained as not changed by at least a predetermined amount relative to the correction value before the adjustment. Also see Applicant's remarks, page 9, the last paragraph.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


3. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Cheukfan Lee whose telephone number is (703) 305-4867. The examiner can normally be reached on 9:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Mon-Fri.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on (703) 305-4712. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Cheukfan Lee
August 17, 2005


cheukfan lee